

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register: 18 June 2001
Name of applicant/court: Comptroller of Customs
Applicant to the Labelling Body: Not Applicable
Title of Publication: La Blue Girl Collection One
Other Known Titles: LA Blue Girl Collection One A Very Graphic Novel
Director: Not Applicable
Producer: Not Applicable
Publisher: Bare Bear Press
Author: Jose Calderon
Format: Comic
Country of Origin: USA
Language: English

Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature: Running time:
Trailers: Running time:
Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable

SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The comic entitled *La Blue Girl Collection One* is classified as: Objectionable.

The comic is deemed objectionable because it tends to promote and support the use of violence and coercion to compel any person to participate in, or submit to, sexual conduct. The comic is an example of Japanese-style erotic Manga but published in the USA. It explicitly depicts women with child-like facial features and over-exaggerated women's physical characteristics engaging in sexual activity. This includes the frequent use of force by men and demon-figures with multiple penis-like tentacles. The intended audience of the comic are male heterosexuals and its intended purpose is use as a means of entertainment, titillation and sexual arousal. The explicit depiction of sexual violence, including the rape of women, is likely to be injurious to the public good in associating such behaviour with sexual arousal in a manner which legitimises it.

The provisions of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBR Act) have been taken into account in determining this classification. As the publication falls under s3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993, it is deemed to be objectionable. A classification of "objectionable" places a limit on the right to freedom of expression as set out in s14 of the NZBR Act. However, in relation to this publication, the classification is considered to be a reasonable limit prescribed by law that can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

OFLC Ref: 100222